

FISH & WILDLIFE COMMISSION AGENDA ITEM COVER SHEET

Meeting Date: May 22, 2014

Agenda Item: 2014 Moose/Sheep/Goat License Quotas Outside Biennial Ranges

Division: Wildlife

Action Needed: Final Action

Time Needed on Agenda for this Presentation: 5 minutes

Background

Biennial quotas for moose, bighorn sheep and mountain goat licenses were adopted as final in February. That adoption set minimum and maximum numbers of licenses that may be annually issued without additional Commission review for any single license type. Field survey efforts, however, have identified one sheep license type listed below where the prescribed 2014 quota is outside the adopted range. To address this, the following proposed adjustment to the 2014 quota is proposed for annual adoption. This proposal is unchanged from the original adoption in April. Functionally, this change would also result in an adjusted quota range from 15 to 25. Other changes and/or maintenance of 2013 quotas will take place within the established quota ranges.

Proposed Adjustment to 2014 Sheep License Quota

- o Increase ewe sheep licenses 622-30 from 10 to 25.

Public Involvement Process & Results

Public comment opportunity will run through 5 p.m., Monday, May 19. At the time of this writing, only eight comments were received. Any final adoption will take place at the May 22 Commission meeting.

Alternatives and Analysis

One alternative would be to set annual quotas only within current ranges. That approach, however, would exclude Commission consideration of updated information from wildlife biologists.

Agency Recommendation & Rationale

FWP recommends the Commission adopt the proposed 2014 adjustment to the annual moose, bighorn sheep and mountain goat quotas listed above. Other changes and/or maintenance of 2013 quotas will take place within the established quota ranges. This approach maintains the integrity of the adopted biennial ranges and adheres to management prescriptions.

Proposed Motion

I move the Commission approve as final the annual moose, sheep and goat quotas as proposed by FWP.